

THE PALAIS ROYAL.

"SPECIALS"

Special Prices for Special Hours

Tonight and tomorrow morning from 8 until Mid-day. The object is to lessen the overcrowding of the store during the afternoon.

A good plan is to take elevator to fourth floor, spending more or less time on each floor, until the basement is reached. Those who follow this advice will shop with greater ease and comfort, besides being certain of securing best of bargains.

On the Fourth Floor.

(Furniture, Portieres, Table Covers, Draperies, etc.)

TONIGHT and tomorrow morning will be a clearing sale of all odd pieces of Furniture and pair of Curtains, at such reduced prices that the elevator fare would be cheap at \$1 a head.

\$3.98 for this last \$12 Mahogany Desk, only \$11.98 for a \$15 Combination Black and Desk, with glass doors and French plate mirrors.

\$3.75 for sixty-two different styles of Rockers, made to retail at \$4.50 to \$6.50. All our maker's sample pieces.

\$4.50 for \$6 Mahogany Music Cabinets, and proportionately little prices for others, \$4 to \$18.

\$1.24 for pieces worth up to \$3.50. Choice of Malachite Green Jardiniere Stands and Mahogany Tables, Oak and Mahogany Rockers, Two-fold Japanese Fire Screens, Three-fold Japanese Screens, 5 feet high, 24-inch square, Tapestry Table Covers, India Seats, etc., etc.

88c pair for the \$1.48 Lace Curtains, Brussels effects, 60 inches wide, 3 1/2 yards long.

\$4.98 pair for the usual \$7 quality Irish Lace Curtains. These are the genuine, in 1897-'98 designs.

On the Third Floor.

(Wraps and Suits, Knit Underwear, Aprons, Corsets, etc.)

TONIGHT and tomorrow morning 10 per cent discount allowed on all Wraps and Suits. We have Capes and Jackets from \$4.98 to \$60; Suits, from \$7.98 to \$65; Separate Dress Skirts, from \$1.98 to \$35; Waists, from 98c to \$25 each.

Silk Petticoats.

\$3.98 for the \$5 Roman Stripe Silk Petticoats, with three large cords in the umbilical flounce. Rustic finish, velvet binding.

\$4.75 for the \$6 Silk Petticoats of superior quality. Finest silk, in fancy stripes and plain colors. Finished with corded ruffle, six inches wide.

\$6.49 for the \$8 French Plaid and Multi-colored Silk Petticoats. The finest silk, in fancy stripes and plain colors. Finished with corded ruffle, six inches wide.

\$7.98 for the \$10 Silk Petticoats, with three large cords in the umbilical flounce. The finest silk, in fancy stripes and plain colors. Finished with corded ruffle, six inches wide.

\$8.98 for the \$12.98 Silk Petticoats, with three large cords in the umbilical flounce. The finest silk, in fancy stripes and plain colors. Finished with corded ruffle, six inches wide.

Dressing Sacques.

66c for the \$1.25 French Flannel Dressing Sacques, with three large cords in the umbilical flounce. Rustic finish, velvet binding.

75c for the \$1.25 French Flannel Dressing Sacques, with three large cords in the umbilical flounce. Rustic finish, velvet binding.

\$1.89 for the \$2.25 French Flannel Dressing Sacques, with three large cords in the umbilical flounce. Rustic finish, velvet binding.

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WATCHING FOR FILIBUSTERS

Cruiser Montgomery at Pensacola on the Qui Vive.

Indications That a Well-Organized Expedition is About to Sail for Cuba.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.

PENSACOLA, Fla., December 18.—There was considerable activity on board the United States steamer Montgomery yesterday, owing to information having reached her commander to the effect that several suspected filibusters were in the harbor. Consequently, the cruiser started fires and made preparations for getting under way if necessary at a moment's notice. The crew of the cruiser worked in conjunction with the revenue cutter Penrose. Late in the afternoon the Montgomery put a squad of armed men, in charge of an officer, on board the Penrose, and they will be relieved every four hours until further developments.

The Montgomery also fitted out several of her boats with guns, ammunition and armed crews to patrol the harbor, while the Penrose did outside, around Warrington. All the boats of the Montgomery have orders to fire two blank charges to bring to any suspected vessel, and upon neglecting to stop, a third shot, this time a loaded shell, to be fired. The Somers N. Smith, a pilot boat, a vessel called the Britannia and a schooner are being kept under official supervision. The Smith is said to have run several successful expeditions in the past, having escaped the Montgomery once, and as she came in from sea on Thursday night and had been taken on board all day long, she is under a description, an unusual proceeding for a pilot boat, the Montgomery intends to follow her as soon as she reaches the harbor.

The Britannia and the schooner have also been taken a cargo of boxes, supposed to be ammunition, etc., on board, and it is reported that the latter vessel is to be taken where outside the bar in order to ship the munitions at sea. It will thus be seen that a well-organized expedition to Cuba is apparently being equipped here.

WORK OF COMMITTEES.

Task of Preparing an Alaska Omnibus Bill to be Taken Up.

The Senate committee on territories Saturday practically decided to enter upon the task of preparing an omnibus bill to cover the conditions in Alaska. The general opinion of the committee seemed favorable to the preparation of a new code of laws for the government of the territory and for new regulations for supplying a military force for it. There was, on the other hand, quite general opposition to a more complete territorial organization than here indicated, most of the members expressing themselves as opposed to granting the territory a delegate to Congress or a local legislature. The reason for this opposition is found in the uncertainty as to the permanency of the present conditions. Senators Thurston, Carter and White were appointed a subcommittee to investigate the entire question.

Naturalization Laws.

A proposition is being discussed to make a thorough reform of the naturalization laws on the lines of the immigration educational test bill. This measure has been favorably reported by the House immigration committee, and will be taken up in the House after the holidays. The committee exceeded some opposition to it, but believe the majority recognize the necessity for some essential change in the present law. Senators Thurston, Carter and White were appointed a subcommittee to investigate the entire question.

Alleged Fraudulent Land Patents.

The subcommittee of the Senate committee on Pacific railroads appointed to investigate the alleged fraudulent issuance of land patents under the Pacific railroad grants met Saturday and examined Thos. Reddington of this city, who claimed to have been informed that fraudulent patents had been issued on land amounting to between three and five million acres. Reddington, who is a clerk in the land office and most of the lands in question were located in California and Oregon.

NORWAY FEARS TROUBLE.

Rumor That Sweden is Backed by Germany to Intervene.

A dispatch from Christiania to the London Daily Chronicle says the political situation in Norway since the failure of the united committee on foreign affairs has become critical, and it is feared that Sweden will seek an occasion for armed intervention.

The dispatch adds that the Swedish press hope for assistance from Emperor William. The admiral of the German squadron, Thomsen, just arrived in Christiania, a director of Norwegian officers, made a speech which if not openly menacing, conveyed an implied threat. The Norwegian officers were much disgusted.

Dress Makes the Man.

"It is the dress that makes the man. It is the dress suit that makes the gentleman." This is not exactly according to Shakespeare or Tennyson, or perhaps even James Whitcomb Riley, but there is a modicum of truth in it nevertheless. "I never knew where, refined and gentlemanly looking man George was until I saw him in a dress suit the other night at the opera, and I declare he looked just lovely. He was the most respectable-looking young man in the house," was the comment made by one belle to another. If anybody needs any respectability or any gentility, G. Wardfield Simpson's, 1298 F street northwest, is an excellent place at which to do it. The dress, worsted suit, full silk lined, for \$50. The firm has been booking a large number of orders for these during the past week.

HAWAIIAN SUGAR OUTPUT.

Planters Troubled by the Descriptions of Japanese Laborers.

The total output of sugar from the Hawaiian Islands for the year just closing, according to the figures of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association, transmitted to the State Department by United States Consul General Haywood, is put down as 248,567 tons, as against 248,555 tons last year. The planters have had more trouble than usual on account of desultory, especially in the Japanese. Ten Japanese gave trouble to one Chinese. Of the 22,000 laborers on the plantations 6,100 were contract Japanese, 5,285 free Chinese, 4,050 contract Chinese and 1,911 free Chinese. The number of laborers whose contracts expire next year is 6,017. The number wanted is 4,273. The Japanese seem to be preferred by the planters as laborers.

Question of Closing Dyes.

The question of the advisability of closing the subcommittee port at Dyea, Alaska, is now before the Treasury Department. Several petitions by mail and telegraph already have been received, some favoring the proposition and others against it. Saturday Secretary Gage received the following telegram from the Tacoma citizens: "On behalf of tens of thousands of people of the United States and the continent who have already signified their intention of going to Alaska to hunt for gold, we beg to suggest that for the present no action be taken toward withdrawing customs subcommittee at Alaska. The efforts be centered upon inducing our government and that of Canada to remove all duties on miners' ordinary outfits, consisting of one year's supply, and weighing one ton or less."

When you visit New York, go to the select Hotel Empire, advertised on page

BILLS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Measures Recently Introduced in the House of Representatives.

Proposed Home Rule for the District in Presidential Appointments—Hall of Records.

Several bills of local interest were introduced in the House of Representatives before adjournment last week. A "home rule" measure was offered by Delegate Callahan of Oklahoma. It provides that hereafter no person shall be eligible to appointment by the President of the United States to any office for either of the territories of Oklahoma, New Mexico or Arizona, or for the District of Columbia, unless he has not been a bona fide citizen and actual resident of the territory for which such person may be appointed, or of the District of Columbia, where the appointment is for said District, for at least six consecutive months next before the date of such appointment.

Proposed Hall of Records.

Mr. Landis introduced a bill (by request) to provide for a hall of records for the government. The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to acquire the real estate, with the improvements, of a certain lot in square numbered 229, and which is bounded on the north by Ohio avenue, on the east by 14th street, on the south by C street and on the west by 15th street north, and to build thereon a hall of records, to be known as the "Hall of Records." The sum of \$440,000 is appropriated to pay for the same, and also for the purpose of providing for immediate use a fireproof building, and also for the purpose of providing for the preservation and storage of papers, documents and other records which have accumulated in the various departments and are needed only on occasional use. The balance of the square shall be used for a suitable building for the storage and distribution of books and other publications issued by order of Congress. The Secretary is authorized to acquire the property by negotiation, so far as such property may be acquired, and title thereto secured at a price not above the fair relative value of the same, or by condemnation, proceedings as provided in the act approved June 10, 1897, to provide an eligible site for a city post office, with amendments thereto approved August 30, 1890.

Relating to Negotiable Instruments.

Mr. Jenkins of Wisconsin, a member of the House District committee, introduced a bill relating to negotiable instruments within the District. The bill takes up fifty-one pages, contains 190 sections and deals in detail with matters connected with negotiable instruments. The preface of the bill sets forth definitions of terms, unless the context otherwise requires, as follows:

"Acceptance" means an acceptance completed by delivery of the instrument to the payee or indorsee of the instrument, who by the terms of the instrument is absolutely required to pay the same. All other parties are "secondarily liable." In determining whether a "reasonable time" or an "unreasonable time" regard is to be had to the nature of the instrument, the usage of trade or the character of the instrument.

"Delivery" means transfer of possession, actual or constructive, from one person to another. "Indorsement" means the signature of the person who by the terms of the instrument is absolutely required to pay the same. All other parties are "secondarily liable." In determining whether a "reasonable time" or an "unreasonable time" regard is to be had to the nature of the instrument, the usage of trade or the character of the instrument.

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Open Evenings.

Until Xmas.

Neckwear.

300 dozen Tecks, Puffs, Imperials and Four-in-Hands, in special patterns, all colors, only newest effects—\$1.50 silk—only 79c.

175